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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Agenda item 62
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 15 September 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to our letter dated 26 August 1998 (A/52/1024-S/1998/812), I have the honour to draw your attention to a new violation of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and of the flight information region of Nicosia by a military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 14 September 1998.

On that day, one Turkish B-200 military aircraft entered the northern Nicosia flight information region in violation of international air traffic regulations and of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria and landing afterwards at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the Turkish occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus. In the afternoon of the same day, the aircraft returned to the Ankara flight information region.

As stated in my previous letters, such intrusions into the Nicosia flight information region and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus are in violation of international air traffic rules and, at the same time, they are in contravention of the provisions of the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, which state that such overflights increase political tension on the island and undermine efforts towards achieving a final settlement.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to strongly protest against this new provocative act by Turkey, a Member State of the United Nations, against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus. This act is in complete disregard of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 62 of the agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotirios ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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I have the honour to transmit herewith the extract on Cyprus from the Final Document of the XII Summit of Heads of State or Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, which took place in Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998.

The communiqué reflects the principled position of all the non-aligned countries concerning the situation in Cyprus. At this crucial moment when the Turkish side hardens even further its positions and tries to undermine the basis of the intercommunal negotiations in Cyprus for finding a bicommunal bizonal federal solution on the basis of the High-Level Agreements and United Nations resolutions, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries condemned "the declared attempts of the Turkish side for a change of the basis of the inter-communal dialogue under the mandate of the United Nations Secretary-General. They consider such demands contrary to the relevant United Nations resolutions, the Non-Aligned Declarations and the principles of international law and call for their withdrawal".

Furthermore, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries expresses its disappointment over the fact that no progress has been achieved because of the intransigence of the Turkish side and its attempt to introduce preconditions in the two rounds of direct negotiations, held under your aegis in the summer of 1997.

Moreover, the Heads of State or Government underlined the importance for the effective implementation of all United Nations resolutions, in particular Security Council resolutions 365 (1974), 541 (1983), 550 (1984) and 939 (1994) and for resolute action to this end, including the demilitarization of Cyprus, as repeatedly proposed by the President of Cyprus. They also reaffirm their

support for your efforts for a just, comprehensive and workable solution, as provided in paragraph 2 of Security Council resolution 939 (1994).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 62 of the agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotirios ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

B. EUROPE

CYPRUS

194. The Heads of State or Government reaffirmed all previous positions and declarations of the Non-Aligned Movement on the question of Cyprus and expressed deep concern and disappointment over the fact that no progress has been achieved in the search for a just and viable solution due to the Turkish intransigence and the attempt of the Turkish side to introduce preconditions to the two rounds of direct negotiations, held in July and August 1997 between the President of Cyprus and the Turkish Cypriot leader, at the United Nations Secretary-General's initiative.

195. The Heads of State or Government reiterated their support for the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, and their solidarity with the people and the Government of Cyprus. They called once again for the withdrawal of all occupation forces and settlers, the return of the refugees to their homes in conditions of safety, the restoration of and respect for human rights of all Cypriots and the accounting for all missing persons.

196. While reiterating their position that the present status quo in Cyprus, created and maintained by the use of force, is unacceptable, the Heads of State or Government underlined the importance and urgency for the effective implementation of all United Nations resolutions, in particular Security Council resolutions 365 (1974), 541 (1983), 550 (1984) and 939 (1994), and to that end, for the Security Council to take resolute action and appropriate measures, including the holding of an international conference and the demilitarization of Cyprus, as repeatedly proposed by the President of Cyprus. They expressed grave concern about recent continuous Turkish threats of use of force against Cyprus and integration of the occupied territory by Turkey and deplored threats by the Turkish side that it will not attend any new round of talks unless the purported state in the occupied territory is recognized. They condemned the declared attempts of the Turkish side for a change of the basis of the inter-communal dialogue under the mandate of the United Nations Secretary-General. They considered such demands contrary to the relevant United Nations resolutions, the Non-Aligned Declarations and the principles of international law and called for their withdrawal.

197. The Heads of State or Government expressed their concern at the continuing lack of political will on the part of the Turkish side, as confirmed by the report of the United Nations Secretary-General (document S/1994/629, dated 30 May 1994). They reaffirmed their support for the United Nations Secretary-General's efforts for a just, comprehensive and workable solution, as provided in paragraph 2 of Security Council resolution 939 (1994) and decided to request the contact group of Non-Aligned countries to remain seized of the situation and actively support such efforts.